

OBITUARIES

ALEXANDER GRAHAM BELL

Alexander Graham Bell died at his summer home near Baddeck, Nova Scotia, August 2, 1922. He was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, March 3, 1847, the son of Alexander Melville and Eliza Symonds Bell. He was educated at Edinburgh and London University, and in 1870 went with his family to Brantford, Canada. Since his grandfather and father had always been interested in elocution and the study of the human voice, the young man made many experiments in these subjects and in the teaching of deaf mutes. In 1871 he went to Boston, where he became professor of vocal physiology at Boston University. During the next few years he gave especial study to the mechanism of the human ear and to the conveying of sound by electric current, all of which resulted in the invention of the telephone, the patent for which was granted March 17, 1876. In later years he made many other inventions—the graphophone, the photophone, a telephone-probe for the location of bullets, and the induction balance—and received numerous honorary degrees from universities in this country and in Europe. He was married in 1877 to Mabel Gardiner Hubbard of Cambridge and spent the later part of his life in Washington, D. C.

Dr. Bell was elected to this Society in April 1899. In the following year he was present at the Boston meeting and read a paper on the life of Francis Green, under the title of "A Philanthropist of the Last Century Identified as a Boston Man." He was much interested in the study of the abstract side of genealogy, such as longevity, heredity and eugenics. Most

of his researches into these subjects are to be found in a series of volumes which he edited called the "Beinn Bhreagh Recorder," in which he wrote out his reminiscences, accounts of scientific studies, personal and family data and the record of important happenings in his life. A set of twenty volumes of this work, all typewritten, together with his typewritten record of the Bell Family of St. Andrews, he deposited in this Library in 1918.

C. S. B.

WILLIAM ARCHIBALD DUNNING

William Archibald Dunning died in New York City, August 25, 1922, in his sixty-fifth year. He was born in Plainfield, N. J., the son of John H. and Catherine Trelease Dunning. He was graduated from Columbia University in 1881 with the degree of A.B., followed by the degrees of A.M. in 1884 and Ph.D. in 1885. He was instructor in political science and history at Columbia University from 1886 to 1891, professor of history from 1891 to 1903 and Lieber professor of history and political philosophy from 1904 to 1922. Particularly interested in the Political Science Association, he was managing editor of its Quarterly from 1894 to 1903. He was a prominent member of the American Historical Association, serving as its President in 1913, and was also elected to many other learned societies. He became a member of the American Antiquarian Society in 1912 and was one of the principal speakers at the Centennial dinner held by the Society in that year. As an author he was best known by his "Essays on the Civil War and Reconstruction," "The British Empire and the United States," and "Reconstruction, Political and Economic." Professor Dunning married, April 18, 1888, Charlotte E. Loomis, who died June 13, 1917.

C. S. B.

Copyright of Proceedings of the American Antiquarian Society is the property of American Antiquarian Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.